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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,417	03/26/2004	Takahiro Iwasaki	04175.0059	7846
22852	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER VARGAS, DIXOMARA	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			ART UNIT 2859	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/809,417	Applicant(s) IWASAKI, TAKAHIRO	
	Examiner Dixomara Vargas	Art Unit 2859	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Omata et al. (US 6,442,356 B2).

With respect to claims 1, 6, 13 and 14, Omata discloses an image forming apparatus comprising (Figure 5): a plurality of image carriers (#101a-#101d); a plurality of transfer units (#105a-#105d), each of which is provided corresponding to each of said plurality of image carriers and contacted under pressure with each of said plurality of image carriers (as see on Figure 5) through an intermediate transfer body or recording material by the application of pressure (#190); a plurality of driving units for driving said plurality of image carriers to rotate (#170a-170d); and control unit for controlling said driving unit (#180), wherein said control unit makes said plurality of transfer units to be selectively operated according to the kind of image

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and said control unit changes a control method for said driving unit according to the kind of image (Columns 8-9, lines 49-67 and 1-17 respectively).

4. With respect to claims 2 and 7, Omata discloses an intermediate transfer body (#190), wherein said plurality of transfer units is fixed (#105a-#105d) to said plurality of image carriers (#101a-#101d) through said intermediate transfer body by the application of pressure (as seen on Figure 5).

5. With respect to claims 3, 8, 15 and 16, Omata discloses control unit that controls said driving unit to drive said image carriers according to correction information based on a mechanical resonance frequency of the driving systems of said image carriers corresponding to the kind of image (Columns 8-9, lines 49-67 and 1-17 respectively).

6. With respect to claims 4, 9, 17 and 18, Omata discloses the correction information is correction information for feed-forward control, and said control means controls said driving means to perform feed-forward control of said image carriers based on the correction information (Columns 8-9, lines 49-67 and 1-17 respectively).

7. With respect to claims 5 and 10, Omata discloses storage means for storing plural pieces of correction information in association with kinds of images, wherein said control means reads the correction information from said storage means according to the kind of image, and controls said driving means to drive said image carriers based on the correction information (Columns 8-9, lines 49-67 and 1-17 respectively).

8. With respect to claim 11, see rejection of claims 1 and 6 above.

9. With respect to claim 12, see rejection of claims 3 and 4 above.

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Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The additional prior art cited in the PTO 892 discloses imaging systems with a control system to adjust the speed of the roll.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dixomara Vargas whose telephone number is (571) 272-2252. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00 am. to 4:30 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego Gutierrez can be reached on (571) 272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dixomara Vargas
Art Unit 2859
December 12, 2005



Diego Gutierrez
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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